



# Tapuitema

...ina ia manino le folauā.

Official American Samoa Government Weekly Newsletter



Friday, January 9, 2009

Vol. IV, No. 1

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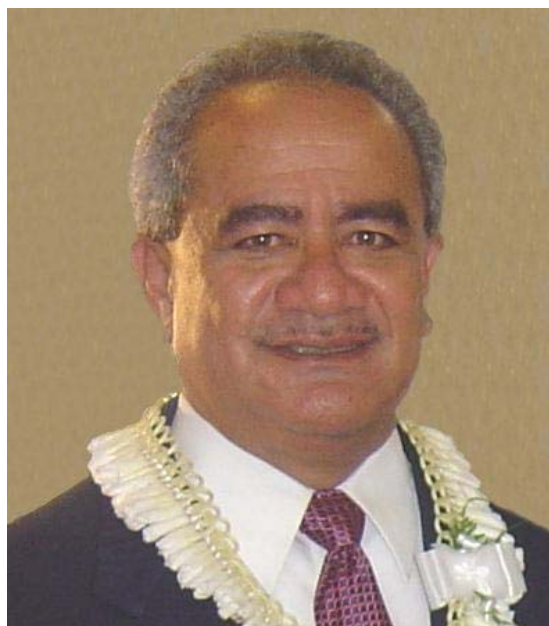
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## **Governor Togiola announces new 2009 American Samoa quarter coin design**



Governor Togiola Tulafono has announced that he has been formally advised by the United States Mint that the American Samoa quarter is included in the six new designs that will grace the twenty-five cent coins issued next year to honor the District of Columbia and the five United States territories: American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, United States Virgin Islands and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The coins will be put into circulation in approximately two-month intervals throughout the year.

Governor Togiola said he has been informed by the US Mint that, like the 50 State Quarters Program before it, these new quarters will encour-

age Americans to appreciate the unique history of the District of Columbia and the territories of the United States.

"This is great news as we get closer and closer to the release of our 25 cent coin," said Governor Togiola. "The US Mint says that while the quarters focus on each territory's individuality, they also recognize the common thread that unites all of us."

Governor Togiola said the quarter honoring the District of Columbia debuts in late January 2009 and American Samoa will be the fourth coin issued next year, after Puerto Rico and Guam. US Virgin Islands and CNMI will be issued last.

The obverse (heads side) of all six 2009 District of Columbia and U. S. Territories Quarters

will continue to display the familiar image of President George Washington, the inscription "In God We Trust" will continue to appear on the obverse of the quarter, as well as the words "United States of America," "Quarter Dollar," and "Liberty."

"The design on the tails side (reverse) of our quarter features the ava bowl, whisk and staff used in our special Samoan ceremonies," said Governor Togiola. "SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA (Samoa, God is First), our official motto, is also inscribed. And like all the new quarters, the coins will continue to bear the standard inscription E PLURIBUS UNUM and the year, 2009."

Governor Togiola expressed  
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## Governor announces new 2009 American Samoa quarter coin design ... *(continued from page 1)*

his delight and gratitude to the people of American Samoa for being patient with the process of designing a quarter to honor American Samoa.

"This process began in late January of this year, and now almost a year later, the US Mint is preparing to issue our 25 cent coin during the New Year. I wish to congratulate and say thanks to all who have supported this effort, to those who made artwork submissions, and to the three local artists whose submissions helped the US Mint to formulate the narratives which inspired the creation of the three concept designs and that allowed us to select the final design that will appear on our coin. Although their wonderful work was not the actual design selected and depicted on the upcoming coin, it is important that I recognize the work of our local artists Christopher Lafoa'i, Henry Utoaluga, and Mark Ashley Faulkner, whose submissions were selected to help the Territorial Coin committee with the narratives required by the selection process established by the US Mint. Thank you for your contribution and we look forward to American Samoa's quarter to be issued in 2009 and allow it to be a reminder of our traditions, our way of life and what makes us a unique part of the United States."

### THE SIX COINS

The quarter honoring the District of Columbia debuts in late January 2009. The coin's reverse design features an image of celebrated musician Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington seated at a piano with the inscriptions, DUKE ELLINGTON and JUSTICE FOR ALL, the District's official motto. The District of Columbia quarter reverse was designed by United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program (AIP) Master Designer Joel Iskowitz and sculpted by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Don Everhart.

The second quarter of 2009, honoring the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, depicts a sentry box in Old San Juan overlooking the sea with a hibiscus, Puerto Rico's official flower. Isla del Encanto (Island of Enchantment) is also inscribed on the reverse. The Puerto Rico quarter reverse was designed and sculpted by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Joseph Menna.

The third quarter of 2009, honoring the territory of Guam, includes an outline of the island of Guam, a latte stone—once used as building support in ancient Chamorro society—and a flying proa (a native boat). Guahan I Tanó ManChamorro (Guam, Land of the Chamorro) is also inscribed on the coin's reverse. The Guam quarter reverse was designed by United States Mint AIP Associate Designer David Westwood and sculpted by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Jim Licaretz.

The fourth quarter of 2009 honors the territory of American Samoa. The reverse design features the ava bowl, whisk and staff used in special Samoan ceremonies. SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA (Samoa, God is First), the official motto of American Samoa, is inscribed on the reverse. The American Samoa quarter reverse was designed by United States Mint AIP Master Designer Stephen Clark and sculpted by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Charles Vickers.

The fifth quarter of 2009 honors the territory of the United States Virgin Islands. The reverse design features the three major islands that comprise the territory with a Banana Quilt (the official bird), a Yellow Cedar (the official flower) and a Tyre Palm, a tree native to the United States Virgin Islands. United in Pride and Hope, the territory's official motto, is also inscribed on the reverse. The United States Virgin Islands quarter reverse was designed and sculpted by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Joseph Menna.

The last quarter of 2009 honors the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The reverse design features a latte stone on an island with a Carolinian canoe under sail in the lagoon. Two white Fairy Terns (native birds) are depicted in flight together overhead with a Carolinian Mwar (head lei) comprised of plumeria, langilang (ylang ylang), angagha (peacock flower) and teibwo (pacific basil), framing the design. The Northern Mariana Islands quarter reverse was designed by United States Mint AIP Master Designer Richard Masters and sculpted by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Phebe Hemphill.

The obverse (heads side) of all six 2009 District of Columbia and U.S. Territories Quarters will continue to display the familiar image of George Washington originally designed by Sculptor John Flanagan in 1932 and modified by former United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver William Cousins in 1999. The inscription "In God We Trust" will continue to appear on the obverse of the quarter, as well as the words "United States of America," "Quarter Dollar," and "Liberty." To view images of the coin designs, visit: <http://www.usmint.gov/pressroom/index.cfm?action=Photo#2009DCTerri>

The 2009 quarters will be issued into circulation in quantities to meet the needs of the United States, both for commerce and collectors. In addition to producing sufficient quantities of circulating coins to meet the Nation's demand, the Department of the Treasury has the authority to mint and issue uncirculated and proof coins, as well as a 90 percent silver version of each coin. These numismatic versions will be included in the United States Mint's annual product offerings.

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## ASPA awarded grant of \$1.4 million to connect western district villages to public water system

The American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) has been awarded a grant of \$1.43 million from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to connect the outlying villages of Fagali'i, Malota, and Fagamalo to the public water system.

The completion of this federally-funded project will mean that all of Tutuila will be served with potable water supplied by ASPA.

Recognizing the need to expand its water system, this project has been a high priority target for ASPA. ASPA's Planning and Special Projects team, headed by Andra Samoa, drafted the grant application that resulted in the

award.

ASPA CEO Mike Keyser said: "Andra has been a driving force for chasing grant opportunities over the past year. This is just another feather in her cap."

The project will enable ASPA to supply potable water to these villages, which have not yet met standards of the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Act. The total grant amount from USEPA for this project is approximately \$1,434,500.

ASPA plans to connect Fagali'i to the central ASPA water system with the option of utilizing the existing Fagali'i well. A pipeline will be installed from Poloa to the

proposed Fagali'i tank in order to integrate Fagali'i into the central system. Electro-mechanical equipment will be installed to the existing well in Fagali'i to act as an alternate source, and a tank will be constructed in Fagamalo. Pipelines will also be installed from Fagali'i to Malota and then to Fagamalo in order to connect the villages to the public water system.

ASPA engineers will soon start the land survey of the proposed tank site in Fagali'i. Once this and other project necessities are completed, the project will be put out for competitive bidding.

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## District Court will not renew permits for commercial drivers with outstanding fines and bench warrants

The District Court of American Samoa issued a notice advising all commercial drivers that their permits will expired on December 31, 2008 and as part of the permit renewal process, commercial drivers will be required to obtain a copy of their driver's record from the District Court's Violation's Bureau.

The request must be made in person by the driver wishing to renew their permit. Each driver must display a valid driver's license issued by the Office of Motor Vehicles and, if not appearing on the license, a copy of that driver's social security card.

A record showing outstanding fines or bench warrants must be paid in full or adjudicated and paid in full, before the Violation's Bureau clerk issues, stamps, and signs the record clearance.

Any driver desiring to check their individual record may stop by the District Court between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to determine if any outstanding fines or tickets need to be addressed before obtaining a final record clearance.

The notice is signed by District Court Judge John L. Ward.

### **SHARE IMPORTANT INFORMATION & ACTIVITIES IN YOUR ASG NEWSLETTER**

with your ASG workforce as well as the citizens of American Samoa. Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other information to:

Harry Stevens ([harry.stevens@americansamoa.gov](mailto:harry.stevens@americansamoa.gov)) or Tialuga Vince Iuli ([vince.iuli@americansamoa.gov](mailto:vince.iuli@americansamoa.gov))



## DPS Chief of Police Leseiau completes CCRM Course in Honolulu

Police Chief Vaitoelau Tiamo Laumoli, a senior law enforcement officer with the Department of Public Safety graduated from the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies "Comprehensive Crisis Response Management: Preventing, Preparing, and Responding" course in Honolulu, HI on December 18.

Leseiau was presented his graduation certificate from APCSS director, retired Army Lt. Gen. Ed Smith.

Leseiau was joined by 48 other senior military and civilian government leaders representing 24 countries throughout (primarily) the Asia-Pacific region who attended the four-week course to study regional security.

The Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies is a Department of Defense regional study, conference, and research center. The center's mission is to educate, connect, and empower security practitioners to advance Asia-Pacific security.

The countries and US territory represented at the course were: American Samoa, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, Laos, Madagascar, Malaysia, Micronesia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Tonga, the United States, and Vietnam.

The CCM course addresses CCM-task coalition building and operations, inter-agency coordination, stability trend analysis, preventive activities, as well as international interventions, post-emergency reconstruction, transition shaping, and strategic communications.

To date, Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies has had representatives from 72 countries and three international organizations attend the courses at the Center for a total of 3,853 alumni. The Center has also hosted or co-hosted conferences/seminars with over 7,200 participants.

## HISTORICAL NOTES

*By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor*

**On January 1, 1901**, the first "Ordinance to regulate the assessment and collection of native taxes" took effect at the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila. The Commandant, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, USN, had issued this ordinance "at the request of the natives in district meetings."

**On January 1, 1926**, American Samoa was devastated by a hurricane. Olosega, in the Manu'a Islands, suffered the most. The Navy Department gave the Territory 50 tons of rice, 10 tons of salmon and 15 tons of biscuits.

**On January 1, 1961**, "the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Program was extended to American Samoa."

**On January 1, 1962**, Western Samoa became the first independent state in the tropical South Pacific, and also the world's first independent "micro-state." Malietoa Tanumafili II and Tupua Tamasese Mea'ole were joint Heads of State for life. Mata'afa Faumuina Fiaame Mulinu'u II was Western Samoa's first Prime Minister.

**On January 2, 1937**, American Samoa's Governor, Captain MacGillivray Milne, informed the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral William Daniel Leahy, that the members of the Fita Fita Guard were "generally recognized as the aristocrats of American Samoa. As long as the Navy Department and the Commandant of this station expect no more of the Fita Fitas than did Commandant Tilley, the interests of the United States Government will be well served."

**On January 2, 1978**, Hyrum Rex Lee finished his term as American Samoa's last appointed civil governor.

**On January 3, 1959**, the American Samoa Government's Sixth Legislature held its first session. Senator Ropati Sotoa of Ta'u County was re-elected President of the Senate, and Representative A.P. Lauvao (who on January 3, 1985 would become Governor A.P. Lutali) was re-elected as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

**On January 3, 1978**, Peter Tali Coleman began his second gubernatorial term (his first as American Samoa's first elected Governor), thus becoming the only person to serve as both an appointed and an elected governor of American Samoa. Tufele Li'amatua was inaugurated as the first elected Lieutenant Governor.

**On January 3, 1997**, Tauese Pita Fiti Sunia and Togiola Talalelei Tulafono were inaugurated as American Samoa's third elected governor and fifth elected lieutenant governor. Tauese became the only elected governor who previously served as a cabinet member (Director of Education, January 3, 1985-January 2, 1989) and Lieutenant Governor (January 3, 1993-January 3, 1997).

**On January 4, 1993**, A.P. Lutali began his second term as American Samoa's second elected Governor, with Tauese P. F. Sunia taking office as the Territory's fourth elected Lieutenant Governor.

**On January 5, 1966**, Robin Lee Graham arrived in Pago Pago from Apia aboard *Dove*, on his solo circumnavigation.

**On January 6, 1997**, Tropical Storm "Evan" began to develop south of Samoa. During the next seven days, Evan followed a clockwise course from south-southwest-west-northwest-north. Maximum wind speeds during Evan's stay reached 67 mph. Rains were heavy, and flooding was widespread.

## Governor signs bill giving each of the territory's three districts \$1 million

The three districts of American Samoa (Eastern, Western, Manu'a) will each receive \$1 million for capital improvement projects.

The funds come from the \$20-million-dollar-loan bill which was signed into law by Governor Togiola Tulafono on December 19, 2008. The loan is from the American Samoa Government's Employees' Retirement Fund.

The Governor explained that the money for the districts will be used to carry out capital improvement projects according to their identified and stated priorities.

## Local Dept. of Education names winners of first annual Health Challenge

Elementary Schools from across the territory were represented by talented young students during the first annual Health Challenge hosted by the local Department of Education late last month at the Tafuna High School cafeteria.

The Health Challenge was the culminating event in a series of activities that took place during the ASDOE's Health Week, which featured Alcohol and Tobacco Awareness Day, Physical Fitness Day, Obesity Awareness Day, Nutrition Day, and preparation for the Health Week Challenge and Health Challenge (including poster and costume competitions).

The Challenge included a competition of knowledge where a team of eight students per participating elementary school took part in brief deliberations to answer ten rounds of questions with each round consisting of ten questions.

Each school was permitted one entry into the poster competition and three minutes to present its team's costume to the panel of judges.

The theme for the poster and costume competitions was: "Engineered to Live a Healthy and Active Lifestyle."

All competing teams took part in the competitions with much enthusiasm. The judges were Lise Sauni of the DOE Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability (OCIA), Ruta Mahuka of Piced, and Nofo Logologo of the ASCC Community and Natural Resources Division.

OCIA assistant director Donna Gurr, who attended the event on behalf of DOE, thanked all those in attendance and commented on the importance of health and fitness in combating the fight against obesity.

Elementary schools represented at the Challenge were Alofau, Pava'ia'i, Siliaga, Laulii, Leone Midkiff, Alataua Lua, Afono, Olomoana, Aua, Coleman, Taputapu, Manulele, and Matafao.

The winners of the competitions are listed below; however, only the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners of each competition were awarded trophies. All participants were awarded certificates and t-shirts provided by the HIV/AIDS Division of the Department of Health.

The ASCC Community and Natural Resources Division provided the trophies.

Approximately 104 students from 13 public schools who met the deadline in submitting entries to the Health Challenge took part in the final event for Health Week.

The following is the official list of winners for each event:

### **The Challenge:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Coleman Elementary
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Laulii Elementary and Leone Midkiff
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Olomoana Elementary
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Pava'ia'i Elementary
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Matafao Elementary

### **Poster:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Alataua Lua Elementary
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Alofau Elementary
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Taputapu Elementary
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Aua Elementary
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Coleman Elementary

### **Costume:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Coleman Elementary
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Manulele Elementary and Pava'ia'i Elementary
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Leone Midkiff and Aua Elementary
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Siliaga Elementary
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Olomoana Elementary

## **USDOJ releases updated statistics on FY 08 grant programs**

The US Department of Justice has released updated statistics on two grant programs that were awarded to American Samoa and other US jurisdictions in fiscal year 2008. The USDOJ is now accepting applications from US states and territories for the same two grant programs for FY 2009.

The first grant totaling \$12,099 was awarded to American Samoa from the USDOJ's Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) under its FY 09 Title V Community Prevention Grants Program.

The program furthers the department's mission by funding local efforts to reduce risk factors for juvenile delinquency and to enhance protective factors to prevent youth at risk of becoming delinquent from entering the juvenile justice system.

The second grant for \$244,6000 was awarded to American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the US Virgin Islands.

The funds, which come from the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program, was distributed based on population figures of the 2000 census for the three named territories. Based on the population count, \$80,539 is allocated for American Samoa in FY 08.

This grant supports states and communities in their efforts to develop and implement coordinated delinquency intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system.

In making the applications available for FY 09, the USDOJ has made known its qualification requirements and deadlines on the applications.

## **Territory allocated \$600K for driver's license security program**

An allocation of \$600,000 for FY 2009 is available for American Samoa for the Driver's License Security Grant Program under the US Department of Homeland Security.

The grant is part of a \$48.5 million grant that covers all 50 US states and territories.

American Samoa will have to submit a grant application for the allocated money.

The program is meant to prevent terrorism, reduce fraud, and improve the reliability and accuracy of personal identification documents issued by states and territories to its residents.

The grant is to be administered by the state or territory's office of motor vehicles.

According to the USDHS, final determination for funding allocations will be based upon applications received as well as the results of a national review panel.

## **LBJ Hospital offering financial assistance programs for residents and non-residents**

If you didn't already know, the LBJ Tropical Medical Center provides a sliding scale discount rate for all medical services for non-residents only. (This excludes pharmacy services).

The discount rate is based on the individual's income. All non-residents are encouraged to apply for the sliding scale program in order to receive financial assistance.

Applications can be obtained from the LBJ Business Office in Fagaalu or by calling Janet Steffany at 633-7540 for more information.

In addition to the sliding scale discount, the LBJ Hospital's prenatal program also offers free medical services for qualified residents and financial assistance for pregnant non-residents for routine care during complicated and uncomplicated childbirth.

More information and full details may be obtained by calling Kalala Tufele at 633-4508.